

Celebration in Loving Memory
of
Reynold Edward Burch, M.D.

October 3, 1910 ——— January 17, 1995



Saturday, January 28, 1995
11:00 A.M.

St. Mark's United Methodist Church

51 Elm Street
Montclair, New Jersey

REV. DR. MICHAEL HARRIOTT, Pastor

Obituary

DR. REYNOLD E. BURCH was born in Augusta, Maine, the son of the late Charles Edward Burch of Bermuda and Cora McCutcheon Burch of New Brunswick, Canada. Later, Mr. and Mrs. Burch, with their two children, Reynold and Madeline moved to Gardiner, Maine.

Dr. Burch died in Silver Spring, Md., where he and his wife, Dr. Mary B. Burch, lived in retirement. They were former residents of Newark and Montclair.

Dr. Burch was affiliated for many years with the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey as director of the Maternity and Infant Care Project, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. In 1970, he was a founding member of the university's board of trustees.

Well known throughout the Newark community, he served on the boards of directors of Public Service Electric & Gas Co., United Hospitals and the Montclair Chapter of the American Red Cross.

From 1956-81, he conducted a private practice in gynecology and obstetrics, delivering thousands of babies as the family physician to two generations of Newark residents.

The philanthropic endeavors of Dr. Burch, known to friends and family as "Buster," and his wife, a former teacher, enabled scores of young people to attend college and medical school. In 1947, they founded the Leaguers, Inc. a youth development program started out of their Newark home. The program flourished to the point where Dr. Burch purchased a house on Clinton Avenue to expand activities. Today, the Dr. Reynold E. Burch Leaguers' Building in Newark, financed by the couple on their own, stands as a monument to their civic deeds.

Dr. Burch graduated from Bates College in his home state, where he was a star athlete. Before entering Howard University Medical School in Washington, he completed post-graduate studies in chemistry at Atlanta University. He was recently honored as a 50-year graduate of Howard.

After serving an internship and residency in pathology at Harlem Hospital in New York, he graduated from the Army's Medical Field Service School and the Air Force School of Aviation Medicine.

Dr. Burch spent four years in the Army Medical Corps as a captain working with bombardment squadrons. He also was serving at Lockburn Army Air Field in Ohio as chief of professional services.

From 1953-56, he was a resident in gynecology and obstetrics at Sydenham Hospital in New York, where he was chairman of the house staff.

Dr. Burch also undertook post-graduate studies at Seton Hall University, New York University, Harvard Medical School, Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons and several other institutions.

He was an attending physician at Clara Maass Memorial Hospital in Belleville and senior attending physician at United Hospitals of Newark, where he founded the Family Planning Clinic and was its director. In 1983, he was named Emeritus Attending Physician at University Hospital in Newark. He also was a longtime clinical associate professor at the New Jersey Medical School.

Dr. Burch was a diplomate of the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology and a fellow of the American College of Surgeons and American College of Obstetricians.

He was a former regional vice president of the National Medical Society, and its national corresponding secretary, and a member of the New Jersey, Essex County and North Jersey medical societies and the American Medical Association.

Dr. Burch served on many boards including those of the Newark YWCA, Essex County Youth House and the Two Hundred Club. He was a member of the Frontiers International, the Newark Branch NAACP, and Bethany Lodge No. 31, Prince Hall Masons.

A member of Alpha Phi Alpha, he was active in fraternal affairs on the regional and national levels.

Dr. Burch co-authored a pioneering article on heroin addiction among pregnant women and their newborns. He was listed in several directories, including "Who's Who Among Black Americans." Among many accolades, he was the "Distinguished Honoree" during a Black History Week Festival at Essex County College.

He leaves to mourn, his wife, Mary B. Burch and cousins; Eula Burch Jones, Montclair, N.J.; Dr. Egbert Burch, Ocean Grove, N.J.; Arthur Burch, New York; Norma Bridges, Dorchester, Mass.; Joyce Burch, Cleveland, Ohio; Willard Burch, Olivette Burch Morris, Ina Burch Pitcher, Wesley Trott, Wynette Burch Taylor, Sheila Burch Burroughs, Harrison Burch, Leone Burch Perinchief, Noel Burch and Carlyle Burch, Bermuda.

Order of Service

REV. DR. MICHAEL HARRIOTT, Presiding

Soloist: MR. TYRONE DUNLAP

Pianist: MR. RICHARD ALSTON

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN -- "Blessed Assurance" No. 369

SCRIPTURE AND PRAYER Psalm 23

SOLO -- "How Great Thou Art"

OBITUARY (Read silently)

CITATIONS: U.S. Secretary of Energy, Hon. Hazel O'Leary
U.S. Congressman, Donald M. Payne

*Shirley Reeves
Bill Cong.*

SOLO -- "If I Can Help Somebody"

REMEMBRANCES:

(two minutes)

Frances Blackmon, M.D.
V.P. Board of Trustees, Leagues, Inc.

Mr. Richard Cooke

Robert Johnson, Sr., M.D.

Huerta C. Neals, M.D.

Mrs. Betty H. Neals

Dolores Rich Ollie
Principal, Harriet Tubman School
Newark, N.J.

Mr. Eric Stone Williams, III

Mrs. Constance Woodruff

VISUAL PRESENTATION - "DR. REYNOLD E. BURCH,
IN RETROSPECT"

..... Dr. Robert Spellman

SOLO -- "Precious Lord"

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

..... Mrs. Mary Burch

Loving wife of Dr. Reynold E. Burch

THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Interment

ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA



Acknowledgement

The family extends heartfelt thanks to all for the outpouring
of love and sympathy.

May God bless each one of you.



Arrangements by

McGUIRE FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.

Washington, D.C.